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UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT WASHINGTON, D.C. 20415

Office of the Director

JUL 24 1987

Rev'd WRD 7-27-87

Honorable James C. Miller III Director Office of Management and Budget Washington, D.C. 20503

Assistant Director for Attention: Legislative Reference

Dear Mr. Miller:

This is in response to your request for the Office of Personnel Management's comments on proposed reports of the Department of Defense and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration on H.R. 2091, the "Special Pay and Civil Service Improvements Act of 1987, introduced by Congressman Wolf. (Senators Trible and Warner have introduced an identical bill in the Senate, s. 987.)

The reports of both DOD and NASA support H.R. 2091. It is the position of the Office of Personnel Management that the Administration cannot support H.R. 2091.

Title I of H.R. 2091 consists of provisions broadening and supplementing OPM's existing special rate authority. These provisions would generally be acceptable to us as a substitute for section 5 of the Administration's proposed "Civil Service Simplification Act of 1987. Titles II and III of H.R. 2091 contain a variety of unrelated provisions which are generally strongly objectionable in substance and, in many seriously flawed technically.

We are fully aware of the need that both DOD and NASA have for improved personnel management tools. It is precisely these needs that led to the President's decision to propose the Civil Service Simplification Act.

This legislation proposes significant reforms in the Civil Service system. It seeks to make delivery of Government services to the taxpayers more productive, efficient, and effective. Through this initiative, the Government's personnel system, which has grown unwieldy and dependent on outdated procedures, will be modernized.

Honorable James C. Miller III

OPM continues to work with the Congress toward the enactment of CSSA in its entirety. It is my firm belief that support of the CSSA, rather than a modified version of its special pay component, is the only position that the Administration can take in order to seek expanded application of the management principles so successfully demonstrated to be effective at the Naval Weapons Center in China Lake, California, and the Naval Ocean Systems Center in San Diego, California. Therefore, OPM opposes H.R. 2091.

Sincerely,

Constance Horner

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Director